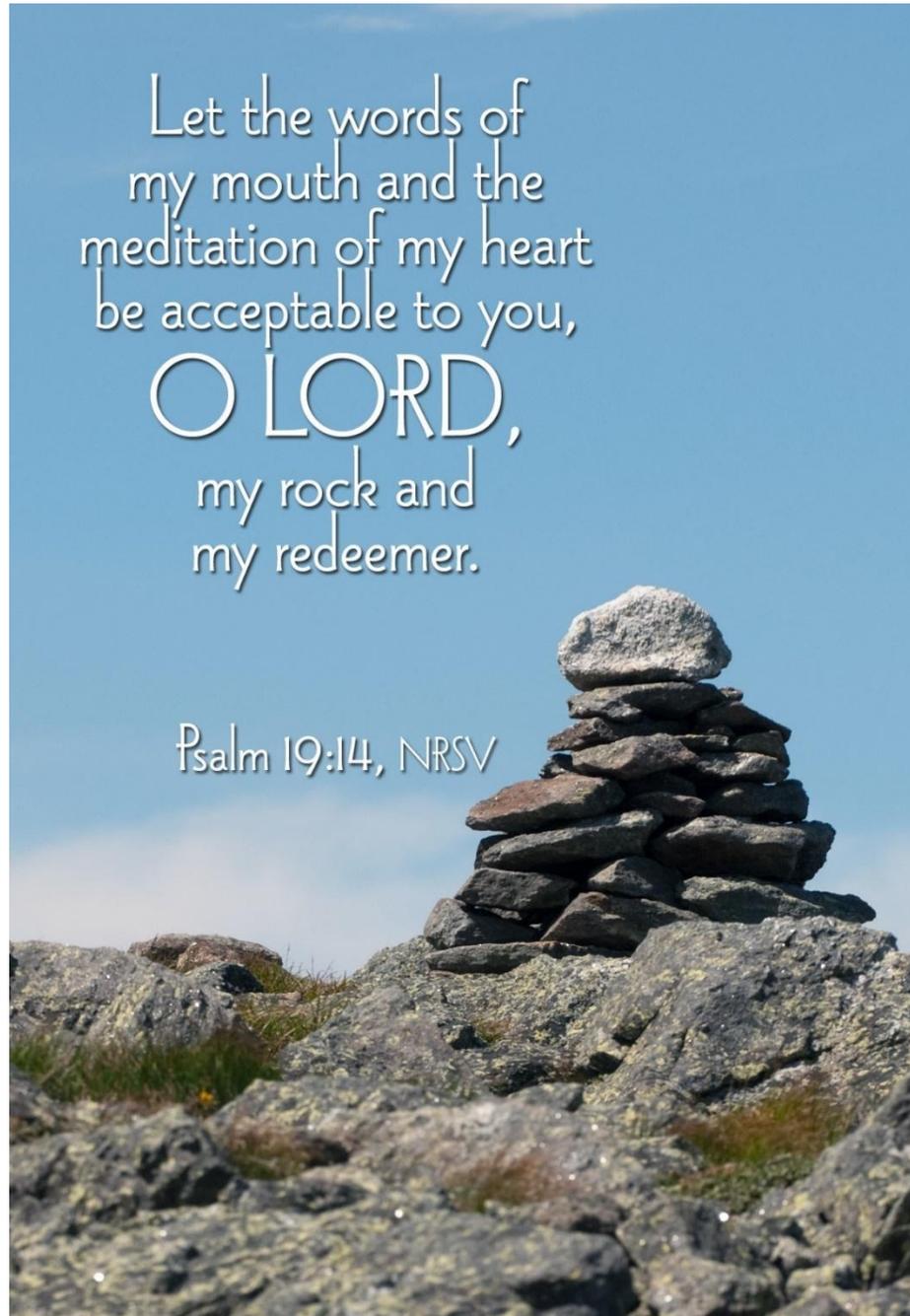


VIRTUAL SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

January 26 and 29, 2022



There will always be rocks in the road ahead of us. They will be stumbling blocks or stepping stones; it all depends on how you use them.

- Friedrich Nietzsche

Gathering as the Body of Christ

CENTERING SONG

“YOU DESERVE IT”

HAIRSTON & VAUGHN

My Hallelujah belongs to you
My Hallelujah belongs to you
My Hallelujah belongs to you
My Hallelujah belongs to you

You deserve it, You deserve it
You deserve it, you deserve it.

GREETING

PRESIDER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Knowledge, like a bright sun, fills us with understanding.

We find truth deep within us and the world around us.

Daily we rediscover elements of this amazing universe the divine created.

We enter this sacred space filled with awe.

Our lives are one small piece of a larger puzzle.

**Let us now, praise the one who crafted all that we see,
and all that we are yet to understand. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

COME, MY WAY, MY TRUTH, MY LIFE

THE CALL



1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a
2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a
3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a



1. way as gives us breath; Such a truth as ends all
2. light as shows a feast; Such a feast as mends in
3. joy as none can move; Such a love as none can



1. strife; Such a life as kill eth death.
2. length; Such a strength as makes his guest.
3. part; Such a heart as joys in love.

Text: 77 77; George Herbert, 1593–1632. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958.

CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

We are called to examine our faithfulness to God's covenant with us. God, in whose presence we gather, promises us grace and pardon when we acknowledge our weakness and shame. Let us confess our sin to almighty God.

Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond fully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and the freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse by the good we leave undone.

Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

We pause for a few moments of silent confession.

God hears the confession of our hearts and lips. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven all our sins, and by the Holy Spirit we are empowered for new life.

We believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

You are invited to pass the peace to each other by waving or by typing in the chat function in Zoom.

Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Let us share this peace with one another.

Service of the Word

POEM

GRATITUDE FOR THEIR WONDER

ALICIA T. CROSBY

This contemporary psalm is filled with the celebration of all that God has done and is doing.

O give thanks to the Lord,
express gratitude for their wonders.
God's genius is unmatched, and their creativity is unparalleled.
Thank you for the sun, O God.

Its warm presence and bright light pierce through
my seasonal affective disorder and help me
rise and produce good works of my own.

Thank you for perspective.

I sit in awe on the edge of the water
looking at the way the sky and river or ocean meet
and cry because I see the artistry of your hand.

All of creation is a testament
to the beauty present in your person, God:
early morning bird songs, flowers defiantly pushing through concrete,
the hum of cicada and crickets,
rolling hills, mighty mountains, and sacred plains,
lakes that go on for what seems like forever.
Remind me of your power and identity as Creative and Creator.

Your affection for me stands out
in the wonders you've brought close
so I can behold their glory and delight in their splendor.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Fire Divine, go through our hearts. O Light eternal, illuminate our souls.
May we discover you in our loving, through the Spirit of Christ who abides
in us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 19

NRSV

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his
handiwork. One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts
knowledge to another. Although they have no words or language, and
their voices are not heard, Their sound has gone out into all lands, and
their message to the ends of the world. In the deep has he set a pavilion
for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices
like a champion to run its course. It goes forth from the uttermost edge of
the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from
its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent. The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults. Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

DR. ANNE THAYER

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For the special needs and concerns of this seminary.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live
and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Service of the Table

OFFERTORY SONG

“OH, THE GLORY OF YOUR PRESENCE”

INSTRUMENTAL

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PRESIDER

God, we are grateful for your presence around us and within us. Thank you for making your presence known to us in this and so many other ways. May we be empowered to follow you in the ways of grace and truth. Amen.

Going Forth as the Body of Christ

CLOSING SONG

“JOYFUL, JOYFUL”(NCH #4, vs. 2 & 4)

HENRY VAN DYKE

All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays;
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain teach us what our praise should be.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“RECESSIONAL OF JOY”

HAL HOPSON

Cover Art: https://www.churchart.com/subscriber/viewimages?book_number=19&chapter=19&image_type=cl%2Cph%2Ccpp%2Cbc%2Cca%2Cmv%2Cwt%2Cnt%2Cpt%2Cft

Description of Art: An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151)

Centering Song: J.J. Hairston and Cortez Vaughn "You Deserve It" Youthful Praise & J.J. Hairston copyright 2016. CCLI #7080601

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Prayers of the Community: Prayers of the People [Form VI] The Book of Common Prayer Episcopal

http://www.bookofcommonprayer.net/prayers_of_the_people Modified by LTS Worship Team

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***The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.**

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM

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Rev. Dr. Catherine E. Williams, Advisor

THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

To serve the universal church of our Creator.

To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.

To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.